

Message Text

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ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 FDRE-00 CIAE-00

HEW-06 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 HA-05 CA-01 SCS-06

ICA-20 EB-08 OC-06 CCO-00 INT-05 H-02 /129 W

-----045465 261548Z /46

P R 261330Z JUN 78

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2948

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

JCS WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0174

GENEVA PASS UNDRO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GR

SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE SITREP NO. 6

REF: THESSALONIKI 0717 AND PREVIOUS

1. CITY APPEARS MORE NORMAL THIS MONDAY THAN ON FRIDAY OR SATURDAY WITH AN INCREASED NUMBER OF OPEN STORES AND SHOPPERS EVIDENT. NEVERTHELESS, THESSALONIKI REMAINS A PARTLY EMPTIED CITY AS RESIDENTS REFUSE TO RETURN TO THEIR DWELLINGS.

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BULK OF CITY'S POPULATION IS LIVING IN TENTS IN OR NEAR CITY OR HAVE LEFT TO GO FURTHER AFIELD TO FIND ADEQUATE SHELTER. A FEW ARE EVEN ARRANGING TRIPS TO THE UNITED STATES TO SPEND NEXT WEEKS WITH RELATIVES THERE AS LONG AS FURTHER TREMORS EXPECTED. GENERAL MALAISE ABOUT FURTHER QUAKES WAS REINFORCED AT 3 A. M. THIS MORNING WHEN MOST CITIZENS

AWAKENED BY A SHOCK SLIGHTLY OVER 3 ON RICHTER SCALE. THIS FOLLOWED TWO TREMORS OF ABOUT THE SAME MAGNITUDE YESTERDAY.

2. EMERGENCY SERVICES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT APPEAR TO BE FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY AS CITIZENS ARE PROVIDED MEDICAL AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, AND FOOD SUPPLIES ARE ADEQUATE. AT THIS TIME EVERYONE IS SEEKING TO OBTAIN HIS OWN TENT AS CITIZENS PLAN TO SPEND AN INDEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME AWAY FROM THEIR DWELLINGS. FIVE EMPLOYEES OF CONSULATE-AMERICAN CENTER HAVE DWELLINGS IN BUILDINGS THAT HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED. WHILE THEY AND OTHERS WITH SIMILAR MISFORTUNE ARE BEING PROMISED LOW-INTEREST LOANS TO OBTAIN NEW DWELLINGS, THE LOSS OF THEIR HOMES HAS BEEN A TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE.

3. SWEDISH SEISMOLOGISTS ARE MAKING REASSURING COMMENTS THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT A NEW STRONG TREMOR WILL OCCUR IN NEAR FUTURE. MEANWHILE, TWO YUGOSLAVIAN AND ONE JAPANESE SEISMOLOGIST HAVE ARRIVED AND THREE-MAN TEAM FROM USGS EXPECTED THIS EVENING OR TOMORROW MORNING.

4. CONSULATE GENERAL IS FUNCTIONING NORMALLY AND NUMBER OF VISITORS, WHILE LIGHT FOR A MONDAY, UNCLASSIFIED

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HAVE INCREASED SHARPLY OVER LAST WEEK'S NUMBER. CONGEN STAFF AT NEAR PEAK COMPLEMENT WITH ONLY THOSE ON ANNUAL LEAVE ABSENT. WE ARE KEEPING LIST OF ALL AMERICANS WHO ARE REPORTING IN TO US RE THEIR WHEREABOUTS, AND THERE ARE NO REPORTED AMERICAN CASUALTIES. ZACHARY

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